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The California  
Memorial Project

SEPTEMBER 2010

## THE CALIFORNIA MEMORIAL PROJECT REMEMBRANCE DAY 2010

### History

From the mid 1880s to the 1960s, more than 45,000 people passed away while living in a state institution. Their remains are for the most part unmarked, in mass gravesites, where numbered markers long ago disappeared.

In 2001 and 2006, then Senator Wesley Chesbro introduced legislation (SB 1448; SB 258) to establish the California Memorial Project (CMP) and expand its purpose. The combined intent of the two pieces of legislation was to:

- Identify the location of all gravesites at existing state hospitals and developmental centers;
- Identify the names of the patients whose remains were donated for medical research, and the entity which the remains were donated;
- Work with the Department of Mental Health and other state agencies to research the records of deaths and burials at cemeteries located on state hospital and developmental center grounds; and
- Develop a plan for the restoration of such cemeteries and gravesites at the locations identified.

### About The California Memorial Project

The mission of CMP is to honor and restore dignity to those individuals who lived and died in state hospitals and institutions. Its goals include:

- Restore cemeteries or graves where individuals from state institutions are buried;
- Preserve the histories of individuals who lived in state institutions; and
- Document the history of the client and consumer movement in California

CMP receives funding from the Department of Mental Health and the Department of Developmental Services; however, most of the work of the project is funded through participating agencies and private donations.

### Interesting Facts

- At Park View in Manteca, there are 2,284 cremated remains of people who died at Modesto State Institution and Stockton Developmental Center.
- Metropolitan State Hospital interred many individuals who had received treatment within the facility. Their remains were relocated to nearby area cemeteries in the early 1980s.
- Approximately 4,368 people were buried from 1875-1924 at Napa State Hospital.
- An estimated 2,024 people were buried from 1893-1934 at Patton State Hospital.
- 1,418 people are buried in a cemetery located in a field on the campus of Sonoma Developmental Center.

## **2010 Remembrance Day Locations**

The 2010 Remembrance Day celebrations will take place September 20, 2010. Below is a listing of Remembrance Day locations:

### **Agnews Historic Cemetery**

**1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

1250 Hope Drive  
Santa Clara, CA 95054  
Contact: Yvonne McGough (510) 267-1258

### **Porterville Hillcrest Cemetery**

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Noon)**

1013 East Olive Avenue  
Porterville, CA 93257  
Contact: David Solis (559) 476-2001

### **Metropolitan State Hospital**

**11:30AM – 12:30 PM**

11401 South Bloomfield Avenue  
Norwalk, CA 90650  
Contact: Robyn Gantsweg (213) 427-8747

### **Napa State Hospital (McGrath Auditorium)**

**1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

2100 Napa-Vallejo Highway  
Napa, CA 94558  
Contact: Alicia Mendoza (916) 488-7787

### **Parkview Cemetery (Front circle)**

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Noon)**

3661 East French Camp Road  
Manteca, CA 95336  
Contact: Jenny Olson (916) 488-7787

### **Patton State Hospital**

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

3102 East Highland Avenue  
Patton, CA 92369  
Contact: Sheryl Bradford (619) 814-8509

### **Sonoma Developmental Center**

**1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

15000 Arnold Drive  
Eldridge, CA 95431  
Contact: Alicia Mendoza (916) 488-7787

## **2010 Remembrance Day Locations**

### **Stockton Rural Cemetery**

**10:30 AM – 11:30 PM**

2350 Cemetery Lane  
Stockton, CA 95204  
Contact: Jenny Olson (916) 488-7787

### **Ukiah Cemetery**

#### **Russian River Cemetery District**

**12:15 PM – 1:15 PM**

940 Low Gap Road  
Ukiah, CA 94582  
Contact: Rob Chittenden (707) 443-2706

## **'Remember' with a Moment of Silence**

If you, or someone you know, are unable to attend one of the Remembrance Day celebrations, please take five minutes of your time – from 1:55 PM to 2:00 PM – and join others from across California in remembering those whose lives were lost while living in a state institution.



For more information, or how to make a donation to the California Memorial Project, please contact one of the following:

- [CA Network of Mental Health Clients](#)  
(916) 443-3232
- [Disability Rights California](#)  
(916) 488-7787
- [People First California](#)  
(760) 945-7663